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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/693,467	10/24/2003	Kevin T. Look	X-719-1D-1D US	2536
24309	7590	10/01/2004	EXAMINER	
XILINX, INC ATTN: LEGAL DEPARTMENT 2100 LOGIC DR SAN JOSE, CA 95124			GUERRERO, MARIA F	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2822	

DATE MAILED: 10/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/693,467

Applicant(s)

LOOK, KEVIN T.

Examiner

Maria Guerrero

Art Unit

2822

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is the First Office Action on the merits.

Status of Claims

2. Claims 1-2 are pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed October 24, 2003 has been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gardner (U.S. 5,885,874) in view of Mizutani (U.S. 4,661,833).

Gardner teaches a device comprising a semiconductor substrate, a first and second doped regions formed in a well region, an oxide layer formed over a channel region, a doped polysilicon layer formed over the oxide layer, and a metal silicide layer formed over the doped polysilicon layer (Fig. 1J-1K, 2G-2I, col. 4, lines 1-60, col. 5, lines 40-50). Gardner shows heating the doped polysilicon layer to cause carrier activation and penetration of the dopant atoms from the doped polysilicon layer through the oxide layer into the channel region (col. 6, lines 19-60, col. 9, lines 10-67, col. 10, lines 15-120).

Gardner does not specifically describe the process as programming a memory cell and applying the programming voltage as claimed. However, Gardner teaches that the process can be applied to a memory (col. 10, lines 30-40). Gardner can be configured to have silicide agglomerated over the channel region. In addition, Mizutani is cited as evidence to show that a person of ordinary skill in the art would consider the process disclosed by Gardner as part of the programming process on a memory cell. Mizutani describes programming a memory cell by applying voltage (Abstract, col. 3, lines 15-18, col. 4, lines 30-65, col. 5, lines 14-65).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the process disclosed by Gardner as part of the programming process on the memory cell as taught by Mizutani because Gardner suggested that numerous variations can be provided and both references show different threshold voltages (Gardner, col. 10, lines 5-6, 25-40; Mizutani, col. 5, lines 58-62).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Tsukiji (U.S. 5,650,649), Hong (U.S. 5,960,285), Shone et al. (U.S. 6,268,622), Bohr et al. (U.S. 5,708,291), Dawson et al. (U.S. 5,851,891), Kalnitsky et al. (U.S. 6,525,397) and Gardner et al. (U.S. 6,140,688) show several embodiments related to applicant's disclosure.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maria Guerrero whose telephone number is 571-272-1837.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amir Zarabian can be reached on 571-272-1852. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

September 29, 2004


MARIA F. GUERRERO
PRIMARY EXAMINER